

KNOX, BORAH AND BUTLER LEAD FOR KEYNOTE ORATOR

Several G. O. P. Committeemen Admit Hughes Seems Most Probable Nominee.

NO CHANCE FOR T. R. SAYS EX-GOV. MURPHY

CHICAGO, March 20.—Dr. N. M. Butler, president of Columbia University, Senator Borah of Idaho and Philander C. Knox, ex-Secretary of State, looked to-night as the leading possibilities under consideration for temporary chairman and "keynoters" of the Republican national convention in June.

The sub-committee of the National Committee, which is meeting in Chicago to make preliminary arrangements for the quadrennial meeting, did not vote on the matter to-day as was expected and the discussion of candidates was said to be in the nature of a "feeling out" and without especial significance.

Concurrent with this gossip of the possibilities reports were passed around that the sub-committee will defer the selection of the temporary chairman until the April or May meeting. Eastern members of the sub-committee are said to be opposed to making a selection at this time, while members from the Western States are in favor of action now.

The Eastern members have a considerable majority of the committee. Elihu Root is out of the running entirely, according to a statement made by Chairman Hill of the National Committee. Mr. Root has said that he has no intention of attending the national convention this year and has not been eliminated from consideration as temporary chairman.

Lodge Also Mentioned.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts has been mentioned for the position, Mr. Hill said. Other names mentioned, according to the members of the committee, include ex-Gov. Chase S. Osborn of Michigan and ex-Gov. Hadley of Missouri.

Justice Charles E. Hughes is still the man most favorably talked about as the nominee of the convention, several members of the committee said. Eastern members said the Supreme Court Justice looked to be the most promising compromise to bring about a reunion of the Republicans and Progressives.

The repeated declaration of Justice Hughes that he is in no sense a candidate is not taken to mean that he will not accept the nomination if the Chicago convention were to select him.

All talk of Col. Roosevelt being the nominee may be eliminated, according to ex-Gov. Franklin Murphy of New Jersey, who declared that "Colonel Roosevelt was impossible." He stated that the only Roosevelt sentiment to be found in the West. Chairman Hill added a word that he too did not regard Col. Roosevelt as a candidate.

Upham of the local arrangements committee uttered similar expressions. "I have been down East and have talked with many of the prominent sections to get the trend of sentiment," said Mr. Upham. "The sentiment appears to favor Justice Hughes as the most available possibility. Then comes Gov. McCall of Massachusetts and in third order they put former Vice-President Fairbanks. That is about the situation as it appears at this stage. I am going to the convention to support the man who will go up or down with the Sherman cause."

Roosevelt and Barnes. Dr. Butler seconded the nomination of Taft in the resolutions committee and as chairman of the resolutions committee. Progressive leaders who appeared in the office to watch developments argued that the intimation that Dr. Butler might be the keynote is a further indication that the central figure in the convention will revolve around Theodore Roosevelt and William Barnes of New York.

Committee Chairman Williams of Oregon, who is conducting the Borah boom, wanted a showdown to-day. "When there is a nasty piece of business to be done my theory is to do it in a hurry," he said. "As time rolls on every Presidential candidate will develop a man for temporary chairman. This must will increase as the number jumps, and I am in favor of fighting it now."

One of the announcements of Chairman Hill was that the formal opening of the national headquarters, another duty given to the sub-committee, will be deferred until May. Members of the sub-committee are Charles D. Hill, Fred W. Estabrook of New Hampshire, James P. Goodrich of Indiana, Ralph Williams of Oregon, and Murphy of New Jersey, Alva H. Martin of Virginia, Thomas F. Niedringhaus of Missouri, Charles B. Warren of Michigan, John T. Adams of Iowa, Fred Stanley of Kansas, E. C. Duncan of North Carolina and George R. Sheldon of New York. All are here except Mr. Duncan and Mr. Niedringhaus.

To-night the members were the guests of Roy O. Wood, the National Committee man from Illinois, at a dinner at the Chicago Club. In addition to the visiting committeemen James B. Reynolds, secretary of the committee, and William F. Stone of Maryland, sergeant at arms of the committee, were invited.

BORAH NOT A CANDIDATE.

Orders Name Of Montana Ballot For Presidential Primary.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Senator Borah of Idaho insists on maintaining that he is not an active candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. To-day he issued instructions that his name be kept off the primary ballot in Montana. The following telegraphic correspondence explains itself:

"HURON, Mich., March 19. "W. E. Borah, Washington. "Petitions have been filed by Republican State committee placing you, former Senator Root, former Vice-President Fairbanks, Senator Weeks, Senator Sherman, former Senator Borah and S. W. McCall on the primary ballot as candidates for President on the Republican ticket in this State."

"All of the petitions are signed by the party leaders. Are these petitions filed with your consent and do you desire to have your name printed on the ballot? Suggest you wire Secretary of State A. M. Alderson your wishes. W. H. HARVEY. "Member Republican State Central Committee."

Senator Borah replied in the following message:

"W. H. Harvey, Huron, Mich. "Any petition presented was without my knowledge or consent. And while I greatly appreciate any interest that friends may have taken in the matter, please upon my behalf take any steps necessary to remove my name from the primary ballot or advise me what is necessary for me to do in order to do so. WILLIAM E. BORAH."

CHAIRMAN HILLES URGES A NATIONAL PRIMARY DAY

Republican Leader Says the Absurdity of the Existing Situation Demands Uniform Legislation for Election of Convention Delegates.

By CHARLES D. HILLES, Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

CHICAGO, March 20.—The situation that has developed through the extension of the primary idea with respect to national political party organizations calls most urgently for standardization of State primary laws so far as they apply to the election of delegates to national party conventions.

More than half the delegates to national conventions of 1916 will be elected or instructed through some primary medium, but the primary laws are so widely at variance in many particulars that a sadly confused state of affairs has resulted.

The utter lack of uniformity in the laws, more pronounced than ever before, despite the experience of several years of operation with primaries, suggests the immediate need of working out some plan by which this confused condition will be brought to a logical conclusion.

In the first place there is the question of the difference in time at which the various primaries are held. We have had primaries held on the same day in the same State throughout the country, whereas the delegate elections in the primary States are strung along from early in March to the very eve of the day set for the Republican national convention.

Atmospheric Influence.

In many of the primary States, having the preference feature in operation, the primary laws are practically as rigidly binding on the delegates chosen as are those imposed on the electors after the party nominations have been made. If all primaries which relate exclusively to delegates to Presidential conventions were held simultaneously there would result a distinct benefit in that one State would not exercise an undue atmospheric influence over another.

It then would be impossible for the partisans of one candidate or another to move from State to State for the purpose of artificially accelerating sentiment in favor of such candidates. While it is true that the same objection regarding the activity of the "army of delegates" has been made from State to State might be raised in connection with the convention method of electing delegates the preference feature as expressed through the primary makes the argument for elections on the same day in the different States especially strong.

There are features of the situation which make the need of uniformity in the laws, however, that more forcibly illustrate the need of uniformity. Standardization would tend to remove several restrictions that are the cause of just complaint.

For a third of a century the Republican party has dealt with the Congressional district as the unit of representation in the national conventions. While the laws of most of the primary States do not interfere with this conception of delegate representation, the laws in some States do. In such States the laws of the delegates from that State have been tied, while in others such delegate is left free of action.

This makes the relationship between the delegates from different States entirely incongruous—a relationship wholly different from that between instructed and uninstructed delegates in the national convention. Under one law a man cannot be a candidate for delegate except with the consent of an avowed supporter of the Presidential nomination, under another he must declare whom he is for and perhaps be limited in his choice to a Presidential aspirant who has filed notice of candidacy in that particular State.

State Laws Reviewed. It is not only the question of a wrong principle in connection with the primary laws that merits attention, but as well the question of the wisdom of having delegates elected under such varying rules and conditions.

Here is shown the necessity for standardization above all else. An examination of some of the State laws suggests the following features, moreover, of which any plan of standardization should take particular note.

In California the law calls for the election of delegates as delegates at large. The California situation in this respect supplied one of the unfortunate bones of contention in the preliminary work of the Republican national convention four years ago. As indicated previously the unit law question, which the California situation also involves, was partly caused by the fact that it is settled, or supposedly settled, by a simple within the limits of this statement to dwell in detail on the arguments that established freedom of individual voting as one of the basic principles of the Republican organization.

If the principle underlying the California law should be adopted generally the delegates would be elected at large, but all delegates in all the States would be elected at large. This would mean that in Pennsylvania the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh would doubt the delegates that Greater New York City, combining with any of the several up-State cities, could control the New York delegation, while in Ohio, Cleveland and Cincinnati would exercise a controlling influence.

In connection with the Ohio primary law the question arises as to how any delegation at all would be elected to the national convention if there happened to be no active candidate for the Presidential nomination in the field. The law not only compels a candidate for delegate to declare his name and second choice for President, but requires that his statement be accompanied by the written consent of the Presidential candidate.

In case there should be only one Presidential candidate filing notice with the Ohio Secretary of State that candidate could designate all the Ohio delegates to the national convention. It would be the same as if he appointed them personally, without the medium of any primary at all, in case he chose to limit the delegate candidates to two from each district because others could enter the field against them.

Ohio happens to have a candidate for President in one of her own sons, and this is the only situation in which there is in no manner personally responsible, as he did not make the law. A more novel feature of the Ohio law than the one just dealt with is that of requiring the candidate for delegate to pledge himself as to a second choice for President, but that the name of his first choice should be withdrawn at the national convention long after his second choice had retired the delegate would not be at liberty to act in accordance with his judgment regarding the situation then presented, but would be forced to vote for the man for whom he had stated a second preference prior to the election.

The Minnesota Presidential preference primary law, like the Ohio law, compels a candidate to the national convention to specify his choice for President, but does not require him to have the consent of the Presidential aspirant. The Minnesota law, however, limits the would-be delegate to a choice between those

aspirants for the Presidential nomination who are running in Minnesota; that is, to such as have had their names placed on the preference ballot through the filing of papers with the Secretary of State.

There is no provision for second choice in the Minnesota law; the delegate is pledged to vote for one man as long as there is a reasonable chance of his being elected. If a delegate is ill, however, or for any reason unable to attend, the alternate who sits in the convention in his place is under no pledge whatever, as instead of being chosen by the electors of the State or district he is appointed by the delegate himself. In this respect the statute seems to present a decided inconsistency.

Indiana's Law. The Indiana law provides for the election of delegates by a State convention, but also provides for a preferential vote for a candidate for President or Vice-President in a Statewide primary.

Any candidate for President or Vice-President who receives a majority of the votes at the primary election shall be instructed by the convention accordingly; and it shall be the duty of the delegates to cast their votes as a bloc for such candidate.

The Texas primary law required that two delegates be elected from each Congressional district, whereas under the new plan of representation most of the districts in Texas are entitled to only one delegate each in the Republican national convention.

A section of the statute, however, makes the provisions of the primary act optional with parties polling less than 50,000 votes at the preceding gubernatorial election. Therefore the Texas Republicans can meet the rules of representation as presented by the national organization only by abandoning the legal primary machine.

In Massachusetts a most anomalous condition exists, due to the lack of any regulation that will limit primary voting to bona fide residents of the State, whose interest the primary is supposed to be held.

As the law now stands, everybody in Massachusetts—Republican, Democrat, Progressive, Prohibitionist, Populist, Socialist—can take part in the selection of Republican delegates, and so in an expression of choice as to a Republican Presidential candidate.

The temptation to members of any party to meddle in the primary affairs of their opponents is particularly strong when there is no factual rivalry and no contest for the nomination in their own camp, especially when it can be done with the sanction of the law.

Two State primaries for the election of delegates to the Presidential convention—those of West Virginia and South Dakota—were fixed by law for a day which this year falls on June 6, the day before the national convention in Chicago. Frequently Republican national conventions have been held in May, and if a May date were established by law, it would be a serious complication.

Recently a special session of the South Dakota Legislature was called, at which a May date was established.

Enough examples have been presented to show the conflicting curiosities of the primary in its present relation to the Presidential nomination. Plainly some of the laws were enacted without full digestion of the conditions applying to the situation in the broad sense. But after the years of experience we have gained, it ought to be possible to re-draft the laws so that many of the most objectionable features would disappear.

The best suggestions as to uniformity naturally will come through a study of the incongruities and some of the actual inconsistencies of existing primary statutes. A definite and generally recognized primary day will eliminate one of the causes of complaint. It ought not to be very difficult to find a common ground for operation, and method of equalizing the authority and responsibility of delegates from the respective States when they sit in national conventions in such widely diverse sort—that is the essential thing.

And finally the facts as to the character of political party organizations should not be forgotten or wholly overlooked. With the due respect to the relation they bear to the public they ought not to be unduly restrained in such a safe and uniform primary law as might well be drafted by a committee to be appointed for that purpose for the Republican convention in June.

SPEAKER'S WIFE FOR U. S. DYES

"America's Best" Quite Good Enough for Mrs. Clark.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Mrs. Champ Clark, wife of the Speaker of the House, has written a letter to the executive committee of the Woman's National Made in U. S. A. League as follows:

"I have just received your letter asking me to give an expression of opinion as to whether the good which might result if American women would patronize exclusively the native American dyestuffs, so far as concerns dyestuffs, is sufficiently important to warrant American dyed goods if I were assured that it could have any appreciable effect upon the welfare and happiness of the country at large, and I believe I voice the sentiments of the great majority of my countrywomen when I say that American dyestuffs are good enough for me, and for the present it might not equal in variety and the colors produced in other parts of the world."

School to Educate Belgian Girl. MONTCLAIR, March 20.—In memory of Evelyn Youneman, 13 years old, the Kimberley School has decided to support and educate a little Belgian girl in the latter's native country.

Miss Youneman died last week in the home of her mother, Mr. and Mrs. Harry V. Youneman, of Lloyd road.

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WILSON TOO SHIFTY, IS BURTON SLOGAN

Ohio Senator Opens His Campaign for Republican Nomination at Kalamazoo.

ATTACKS FOREIGN POLICY

KALAMAZOO, Mich., March 20.—Senator Theodore E. Burton of Ohio opened his campaign for the Republican nomination for the Presidency in an address before the Lincoln Club of this county to-night.

He declared that auspicious omens cheer the Republican party and mentioned that not once since the civil war has a Democratic Administration succeeded itself.

After dwelling upon the domestic issues in the approaching campaign, such as the tariff and the cost of living, Mr. Burton turned to those relating to the Wilson Administration's foreign policy.

"What has produced the present disastrous tangle in our relations with other countries? What has brought about the instability and the change in the United States has fewer friends to-day in foreign lands and enjoys less influence and respect than ever before in our history? The answer is the blundering and incapacity of the Democratic party."

Vacillation Charged. "The one fact more obvious than any other in all the conflicting currents of events during the last three years is that the present ignominious status of the United States in relation to other countries has been brought about by the vacillation of the present Administration."

"Except for this, murder and anarchy in Mexico would long since have ceased. Except for this, there would have been no controversy with Germany over submarine warfare and no dispute with Great Britain respecting the rights of American ships."

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THOMAS TAGGART NOW U. S. SENATOR

Gov. Ralston Gratifies Indiana Leader's Ambition by Appointing Him.

TO TAKE SEAT AT ONCE

INDIANAPOLIS, March 20.—Thomas Taggart, Democratic National Committeeman, was appointed United States Senator to-day to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Benjamin F. Shively. Gov. Ralston made the appointment immediately.

Senator Taggart has been prominent in Indiana and national politics for nearly a generation, and the appointment fulfills an old ambition of his.

The only office he ever held was that of Auditor of Marion county and Mayor of Indianapolis, a post he held for several terms.

Gov. Ralston wrote a letter to Taggart in which he said: "You have long and faithfully served your party at great personal sacrifice to yourself, both in labor and money. If the Democratic party has been sound in its platform declarations during the past twenty-five years then you have been sound in your advocacy of political policy, for without hope of personal preferment or reward you have championed the cause of your party with a dauntless courage and an inspiring optimism."

"Your services as a public official have been characterized with marked efficiency and the strictest integrity. While you have been at times severely criticized by some within and some without your party, no responsible man has ever laid the betrayal of a trust against you. I know you will go forth to the discharge of your new duties firmly resolved to support the Administration of President Wilson and to preserve the honor and dignity of our State and nation."

Taggart a Seeker for Senatorial Honor for 15 Years. Thomas Taggart of Indiana has been trying to find an open door to the United States Senate for at least fifteen years. Everybody in Indiana knew that the Senatorial dignity was Taggart's great ambition, an honor with which he has been content to wait for a long time.

For just thirty years Mr. Taggart has been active in Hoosier politics, which are about the most active politics to be found in the twenty-eight States. For twenty years he has been the Democratic boss of the State, as long in Indiana as George B. Cox ever was in Ohio or Murphy in New York or Roger Sullivan in Illinois, and actually much more popular with the voters at large than any of those leaders.

In that fifth of a century no Indiana Democrat has ever been able to get anywhere without Tom Taggart's approval or help. In recent years he sent John W. Kern to the United States Senate and made Thomas R. Marshall Vice-President of the United States.

Smiles, softness, flattery, interestedness, simulated or real, were Taggart's great assets as a political boss. He had an Irish grin and a warm handshake that drew and held friends. Time after time he has gone into hostile or uninterested delegations and within an hour or so has had the delegates bound to his side. He never talked to them—talked about their wives and babies, their crops and cattle; made them feel as if they were somebody. Naturally they went to their homes swearing by Tom Taggart.

A Native of Ohio. Taggart is 60 years of age and was born in Ohio of Irish parents. Through Hoosier statesmen, including the late President Harrison, were natives. At 15 he was a waiter in the Union Hotel in Indianapolis. He saved money, bought a small hotel with bar attached, and got into politics and pretty soon got himself endowed with one of politics' most useful assets—money.

"Smiling Tom" he was called then, and "Smiling Tom" he has been called ever since.

In 1888 he was elected by the Democrats of Marion county, Indiana, as Auditor, although the county had been solidly Republican for twenty-six years. That was his political start, in an office worth \$50,000 a year.

Two years later, as Democratic county chairman, he carried the county against Harrison, although it was Harrison's own county. He got to be chairman of the State committee in 1892 and soon gained a national reputation. For three

years he served as Mayor of Indianapolis without a break, retired, just to show he could do it.

In 1904, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he managed the Parker campaign. Meanwhile he had owned and conducted the French Lick Springs Hotel, a celebrated watering place in southern Indiana. It had become famous for high rolling gambling. The French Lick Casino was as much talked about as Cleveland's beautiful gambling palace at Saratoga. Enormous sums were won and lost there. The lessees made vast profits.

French Lick Raided. In 1904 Gov. Frank Hanly of Indiana sent raiders to French Lick, closed the casino and confiscated \$50,000 worth of gambling equipment. The Governor charged directly that Taggart was personally interested in the gambling house and a beneficiary of the profits. There was a long drawn out court action, but eventually it came to nothing except that gambling at French Lick received a blow from which it never recovered.

Taggart's power in politics was little affected, if any. He got a place for John W. Kern as Bryan's running mate in 1908, and after the defeat of Bryan and the success of a State ticket of John W. Kern elected as a United States Senator from Indiana.

In 1912 Taggart opposed the nomination of Woodrow Wilson. He attempted to climb upon the bandwagon when he saw that the nomination was inevitable. Thereupon he demanded the nomination of Marshall, ex-President, and other bosses beat Bryan, who had another candidate.

In June, 1915, Taggart, with other Indianapolis Democratic politicians, was indicted for election frauds—conspiracy to violate the election laws by means of vote buying, destruction of ballots and other tricks. The indictments against Taggart, Mayor Bell and others were quashed after a few months. There was no legal evidence warranting a trial.

COUNT'S CASE GOES TO JURY. J. J. Bennett, sued for \$15,000, Tells of Events Leading to Attack. A sealed verdict will be opened this morning in the Supreme Court in the case of Count Paul de Kildushevsky, who asserts that he is a Russian nobleman, against James J. Bennett, a lawyer of Brooklyn and Poughkeepsie, where \$15,000 is claimed on an allegation of assault, false arrest and malicious prosecution.

The Count swore before Justice Dugro yesterday that when he was brought to jail on the state's charge of assault on the attorney at 510 West Forty-seventh street on the night of May 9, 1913, he was beaten with a cane, arrested, arraigned in the night court and held three days in prison.

The defendant, who is not at home all the time, says that on the night in question he answered a knock at the door bell, whereupon a man, who turned out afterward to be the plaintiff, tried to brush by him. He would not explain his purpose and would not give his name. That brought on the trouble.

On examination Mr. Bennett swore that his wife had told him she had moved about twelve times to rid herself and daughter of the attentions of the count. Once she had left the State and another time had moved to Brooklyn.

Mr. Bennett said his daughter had not been subpoenaed and would not be called. It was said that she is now a freshman at Vassar.

SEAT FOR PRENDERGAST. Fourth Congress District Delegate Makes Way for Him. Richard E. Weber, who had been selected a delegate from the Fourth Congressional district in Brooklyn to the Republican national convention, yesterday filed his declaration with the Board of Elections in favor of Comptroller William A. Prendergast.

The substitution of Prendergast, who is a resident of the Sixth Congressional district, for Weber was brought about through the efforts of ex-Congressman Calder and other political friends of the Comptroller. No protest against the change is anticipated in the primaries.

64 RAILROAD CHIEFS FIGHT NEW MAIL RATE

Plan for Payment on Basis of Space Used Is Called Unreasonable.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Sixty-four railroad presidents joined in protest to-day against the proposed space plan of compensating the railroads for carrying mails. The protest was made to the Senate Committee on Post Office and Post Roads.

Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island Railroad and chairman of the roads' committee on railway mail pay, read the protest.

It is the Moon bill, carried as a rider on the post office appropriation bill, to which the railway officers object.

Mr. Peters scored the space plan of payment and said that it had been condemned by practically every rate expert in the country as unjust, in that it would deny the railroads payment for service actually rendered. Mr. Peters said:

"It would almost seem that the authors of this law, to that its provisions are so unreasonable, so unjust and so un-American that the railroads could only be induced to submit to them by actual force in the way of a line so heavy that they could not afford to test their rights."